

Rachael Williams, Learning and Engagement Officer,  
Stories of Lynn and Project Worker for Kick the Dust.

**1 NOVEMBER 2022 TO 1 MARCH 2023**

## 1. Schools

1.1 From 1 November 2022 to 1 March 2023, 21 schools visited bringing a total of 952 primary school pupils, with 110 accompanying adults. 18 Schools are represented and all of them are from West Norfolk. One of them is a High School and the rest are in the Primary phase.

1.2 Most of our visits are two-site day visits between Lynn Museum and Stories of Lynn. We had one split site visit to True's Yard and SOL.

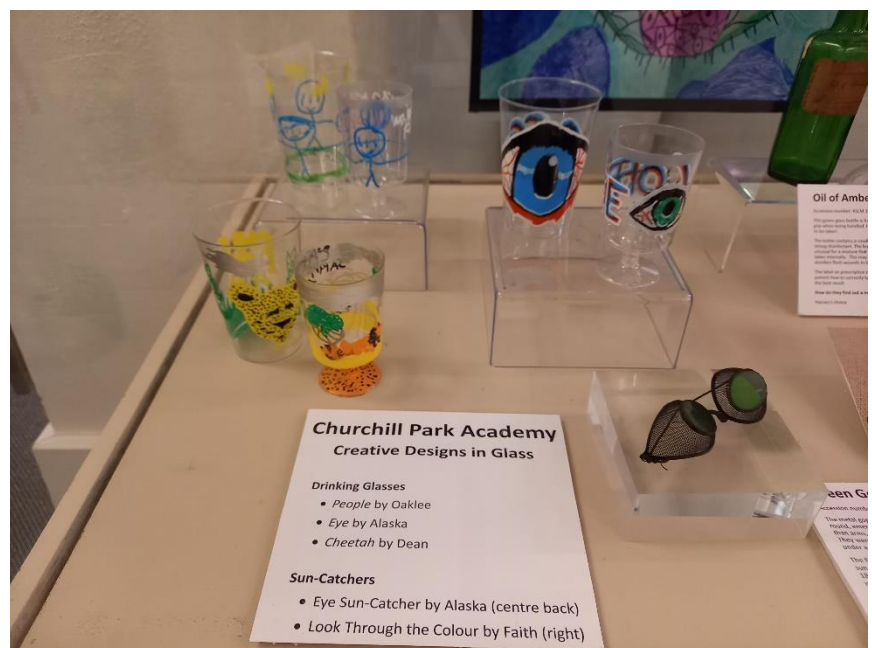
## 2. Kick the Dust in King's Lynn

2.1 Shannon Starr has been working as a pre-apprenticeship trainee and assistant to Rachael Williams at Stories of Lynn for a second period of 10 weeks. This is a paid roll for 10 hours per week for 10 weeks and part of a trial where Kick the Dust is employing three young people with additional needs who can explore the potential of the next phase of Kick the Dust. Shannon helped with the first Snories at Stories event in the museum.

### 2.2 Wednesday's Churchill Park Complex Needs School students

2.2.1 Autumn Term 2 student group joined Rachel Duffield and Rachael Williams on a Glass theme. This was outreach work with Shannon (a former pupil of Churchill Park) and Rachael attending the school for a launch of the project and then Rachel Duffield delivering activities online (as we developed in lockdown and still find a great way to work with the students).

2.2.2 The artefacts were created by the students at their school. Some pieces were selected to go into an exhibition about Glass that was curated by the KTD Work Experience group. The mainstream group was running on a Tuesday for 12 weeks with Rachael Williams. (see below)



- 2.2.3 In Spring Term 1 a new group of students came to SOL for their face-to-face project with Rachael Williams. It was focussed on learning History themes (such as the Mart, King John, The gaolhouse). The students asked to make a film that they could show at school to tell other students and staff what they were doing at SOL. This worked well with an intention to create a film about the success of our partnership working with this Complex Needs school. The students did some of their own filming to be used by the filmmaker that KTD commissioned to work with the students. Churchill Park students also attended the King's Lynn Academy Medieval History Day and enjoyed learning the history that it is reported they rarely focus on. We are delighted to provide that support to the staff of the school. Further opportunities to learn about the history of our area are being researched.
- 2.2.4 In Spring Term 2 we welcomed the commissioned film maker, Lewis Wickwar and the former and subsequent groups from Churchill Park so they could help make the film. This is not finished yet but will be shown to the Joint Museum Committee as soon as it is available. The day was very successful and the students also helped the filmmaker to make the film.
- 2.2.5 It is hoped that the development of KTD through SOL will be able to continue to work with Churchill Park and our new partners.

### 2.3 KTD work experience

- 2.3.1 "Glass" group completed their programme in Autumn 1 with an exhibition that is still on display in the undercroft of SOL. The students chose the items linked to the theme of Glass, wrote their own interpretation panel and labels which were then curated with the Churchill Park work.



- 2.3.2 This Spring Term "The Mayor's Booklet" group are working on a booklet for the Mayor, about the paintings in the upstairs of the Town Hall. They are taking high resolution images, writing their own interpretation and liaising with the Graphics department to get it printed.

- 2.3.3 Rachael Williams and Luke Shackell, the King's Lynn Borough Archivist have embarked on a diversification of the Change Minds:

<https://changeminds.org.uk>

Change Minds is a transformative archival adventure for people from North Norfolk and Norwich who live with mental health conditions and are on low incomes, carers, volunteers and staff. Researching two digitised 19th Century Norfolk County Asylum Case Books at Norfolk Record Office and Norwich Millennium Library, Change Minds engages local people and online visitors in the stories it reveals during a fascinating investigation into local heritage, mental health and identity.

Supported by Norfolk Record Office and mental health professionals, so far 2 groups of 16 people have followed the same process in successive years. In Term 1 participants research someone encountered in the Case Books, track them online through census records in their local library and visit Norwich Castle Study Centre. Term 2 explores history and identity in creative workshops at Belfry Arts Centre, Overstrand or Oddfellows Hall, Sheringham. In Term 3, trained by Norfolk Sound Archive, participants make an oral history and web archive of their research and visit Gressenhall Museum. Finally both cohorts come together to create exhibitions at The Forum Norwich, Norfolk Record Office, Oddfellows Hall and online. A House of Commons reception hosted by our Patron, Norman Lamb MP, celebrates people's achievements. Our digital outputs remain online, for everyone.

Luke and Rachael have recruited just two participants who are between 18-25 years, who started Change Minds on 3 March 2023, and are very enthusiastic. It is anticipated that we will adjust the criteria for recruitment and look to bring in a further 10 young people to join the group, from 21 April 2023. Adjustments to the paperwork supporting the programme are being made to accommodate those under 18 and within the KTD age range.

## 2.4 KTD supporting other activities:

- 2.4.1 The KTD Young People helped to design the lanterns for the [BCKLWN Christmas Lights Switch On \(27.11.22\) in King's Lynn](#). They helped to collect and prepare the resources and to deliver the workshop in Tuesday Market Place where all 300 light units were used. They worked well as a team and were very enthusiastic, efficient and coordinated. The article below from the BCKLWN website was written by one of the KTD young people, Alex Hall.

# Kick the Dust Youth Group Presents:

## 'Light the Way to Christmas'

Published: Wednesday, 9th November 2022

As part of the popular King's Lynn Christmas Lights switch-on event taking place on Sunday 27 November 2022, children are invited to make their own remote controlled lantern to take home for Christmas.



The free workshop will run from 2pm until 4.30pm on the Tuesday Market Place. There's also festive family entertainment on the stage from Radio West Norfolk presenter Simon Rowe and live music from the Miss Jones Trio and Bear Club.

But the fun won't stop there! Afterwards at 4.40pm the lantern makers should all meet at the Lantern sign on the Tuesday Market Place to begin a parade around King's Lynn town centre, which starts at 4.45pm. Parents are asked to escort their children throughout.

The parade will wind through town, the Vancouver Quarter and back to the Tuesday Market Place ready for the count down to the Christmas lights being switched on.



We recommend wearing warm clothing; Christmas jumpers, hats and gloves, so you will stay nice and toasty.

Rachael Williams, Learning and Engagement Officer at Stories of Lynn is already looking forward to this year's parade:

"I am so excited that we are going to be Lighting the way to Christmas with the children and young people of King's Lynn. I love to recycle waste plastics and I am really grateful to my youth group and my colleagues for helping us to collect enough bottles for 300 people to join in this FREE event! It is the best way I can



think of to start the Christmas season – colour, light, friends, smiling faces and a walk round our amazing town centre”.

Cllr Graham Middleton, Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Business, Culture and Heritage at the borough council, said:

“With the temperature dipping, and cost of living increases affecting us all, I’m pleased that we can give our residents another great free event to come and enjoy. This afternoon of free family entertainment should get everyone in the Christmas spirit and highlight what our town has to offer.”

This year's merry festivities will be bigger and brighter than ever so we hope to see you there for this very special family event.

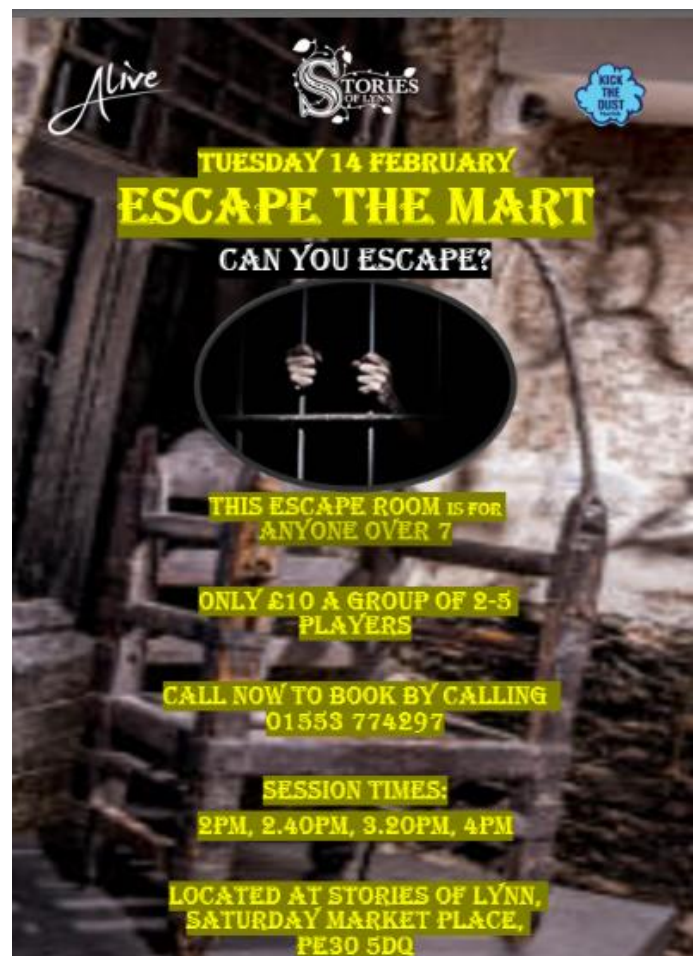
Get your lanterns, put on your mittens, it's time to remind Santa we're here, so let's Light the Way to Christmas.

This article was written by Alex Hall, part of the Kick the Dust Youth Group.

2.4.2 KTD ran a Christmas workshop (19.12.22) for visitors to SOL, choosing the activities and leading cooking activities.

2.4.3 KTD took part in the opening of the Mart and running an Escape Room in SOL Gaolhouse that they designed based on Frederick Savage’s life. Five groups of paying customers attended the pre-booked sessions and they all enjoyed the experience they had. The KTD young people were from work experience and from Kick the Dust Time Turners (Tuesdays 4 -5.30pm)

This poster was designed by one of the young people and used to promote their event through social media. It was booked up so quickly they had to offer to run an extra session!



2.4.4 Shannon Starr assisted Rachael Williams at Snories at Stories event at which the Guides created an exhibition about the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1953 Floods in King’s Lynn. This was displayed in the Gateway room of SOL and the Environment Agency supplied two pop-up banners of information to add to the display created by the Guides who were all of KTD programme age. It is hoped that we will be able to help Shannon to find a paid role as she has made a great deal of progress; KTD is unable to fund more.

### **3. Family Learning Activities**

#### **3.1 At Stories of Lynn**

- 3.1.1 Christmas event (as above) at SOL run by KTD – low numbers attended.
- 3.1.2 February half term holiday activities at SOL – low numbers attended on Monday but about 40 participants attended on the Tuesday.

#### **3.2 At St George's Guildhall Events**

- 3.3 The 15 February Hamlet Whodunnit event at St George's Guildhall had to be cancelled as only 5 attendees booked. The competition for other events was held responsible (e.g. Milkshake and the Mart children's day). This will be re-advertise this event for later in the year.
- 3.4 Dayna Woolbright and Rachael Williams continue to plan and deliver events for the St George's Guildhall until the new Learning and Engagement post is filled. At that point, we will shift to a support role for the Guildhall, ensuring the activity plan for the Guildhall is carried out. This will enable Rachael Williams to continue to work the within the Service Level Agreement between the BCKLWN and NMS, working with schools, running activities in SOL for families, BCKLWN community events, continuing to work within the directives of Kick the Dust and its partners and to undertake other projects and events.

For further information on my report, please contact [Rachael.Williams2@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:Rachael.Williams2@norfolk.gov.uk) 01553 669287.

Rachael Williams

1 March 2023